

Mandy

16p

PICTURE STORY LIBRARY FOR GIRLS No. 50

30
15

**CAPTIVES
UNDER THE
SEA**



Champion Story

Look out for this super story
about the making of a champion
at rhythmic gymnastics. It's a
library with a difference!

A black and white line drawing of a woman with long hair, wearing a dark leotard, performing a rhythmic gymnastics routine. She is holding a large hoop with both hands, and her legs are extended upwards, with one leg passing through the hoop. Motion lines around the hoop and her legs suggest movement.

**HOOPALONG
HETTY**

Debbie Library №50

★★★★★ IT'S IN THE SHOPS NOW ★★★★★

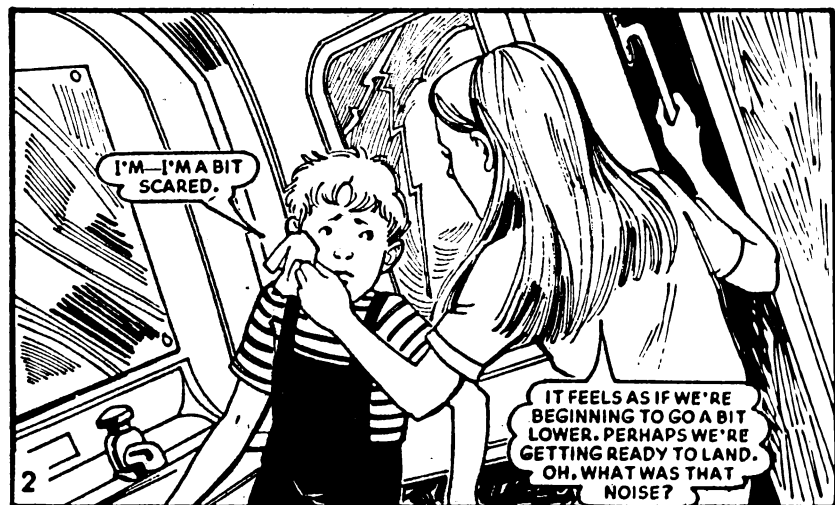
CAPTIVES UNDER THE SEA



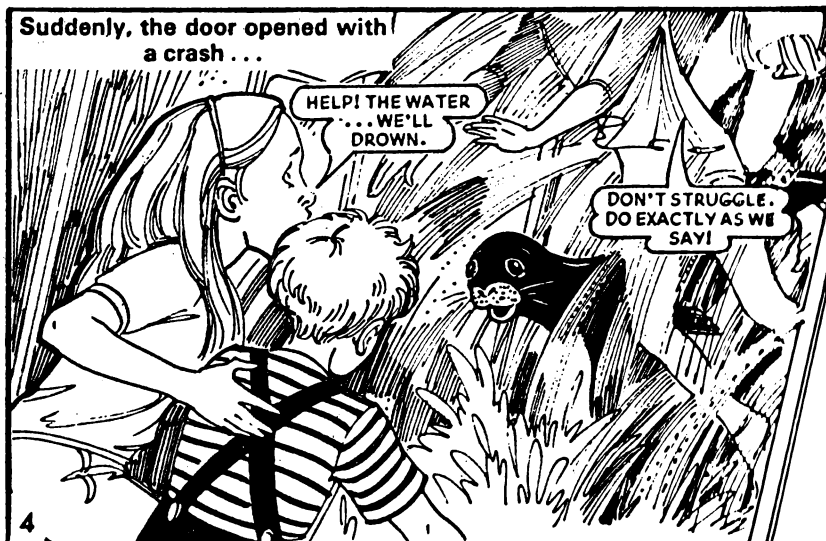
WHAT WAS
THAT?

WE'VE BEEN HIT
BY LIGHTNING!

BATTERED by a sudden storm, a little plane struggles to keep in the air. Among the passengers are Jenny Thomson, and her brother Jonathan, flying to join their father on a remote Scottish island...





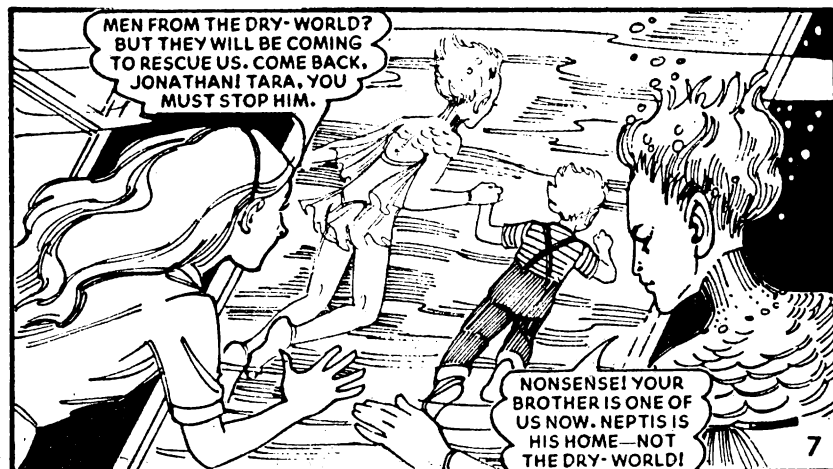


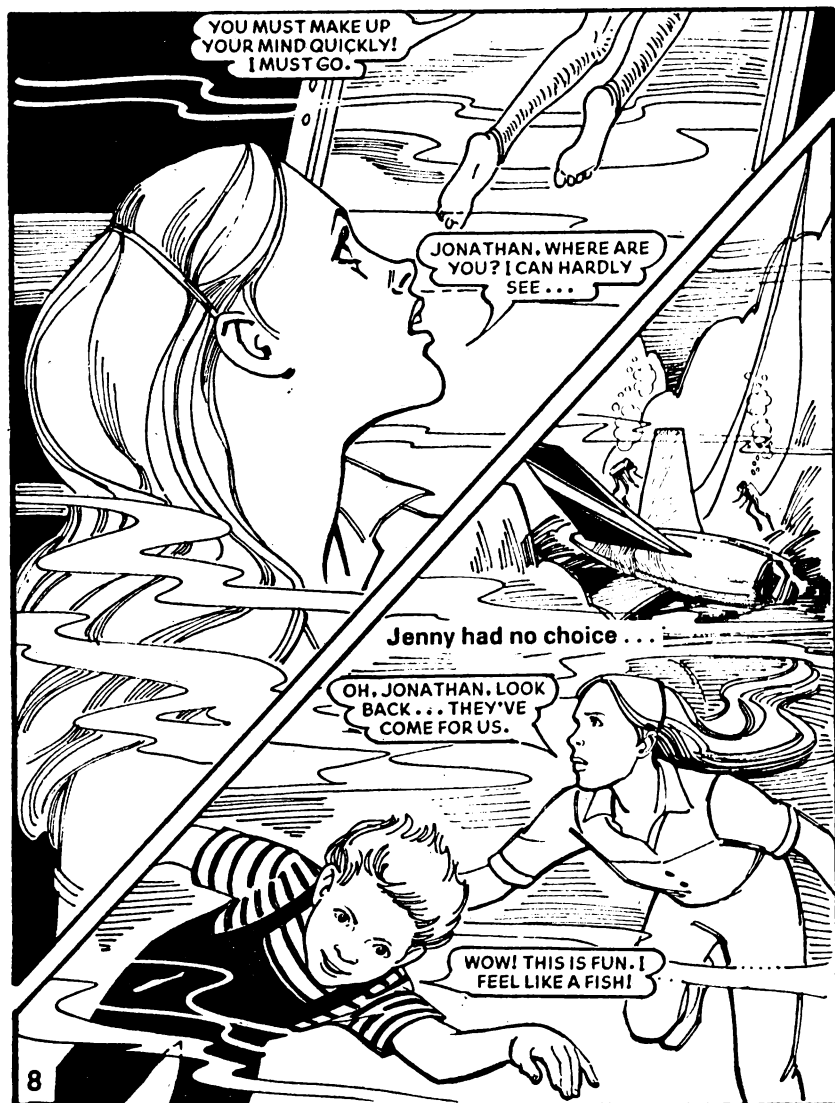


Their rescuers introduced themselves—

IT IS QUITE SIMPLE. I AM
TARA SKERRYDRIFT—AND
THIS IS MY SISTER, SHUNA.
WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF
NAIA, QUEEN OF NEPTIS.

AND YOU ARE QUITE SAFE
BENEATH THE WATER
BECAUSE THOSE CAPSULES
YOU SWALLOWED ARE TINY
OXYGEN SUPPLY SYSTEMS.
JUST BREATHE NORMALLY.
YOU ARE LIKE US NOW!





After swimming only a short time ...



At the court of Queen Naia ...



HERE THEY ARE.
COME FORWARD,
JENNY AND
JONATHAN.

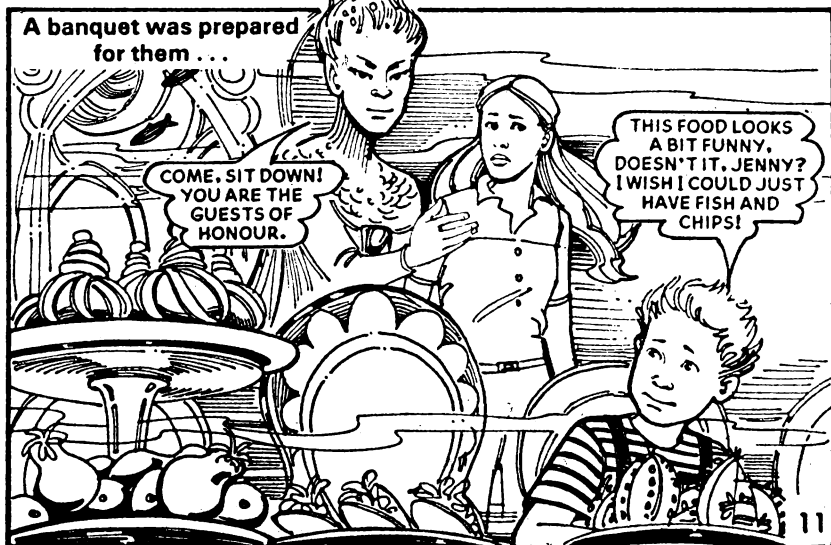
WHEN YOU REACH
THE THRONE YOU
MUST BOTH BOW.
BUT DON'T BE
SCARED, OUR
MOTHER IS VERY
KIND.

I DON'T THINK
WE'VE EVER MET A
QUEEN BEFORE.

I BID YOU WELCOME! YOU ARE
NOT THE FIRST VISITORS WE
HAVE HAD FROM THE DRY-
WORLD ABOVE THE WAVES. I
HOPE YOU WILL LIVE WITH US
LONG AND HAPPILY.

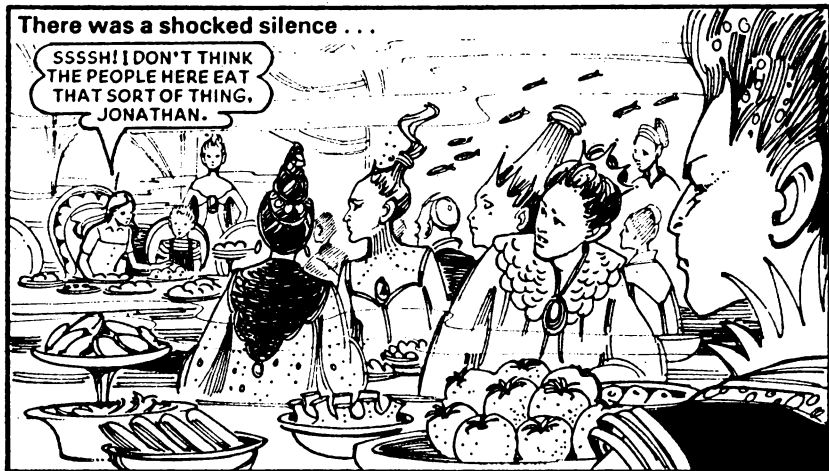


THANK YOU
VERY MUCH...
ER...MA'AM.



There was a shocked silence . . .

SSSSH! I DON'T THINK
THE PEOPLE HERE EAT
THAT SORT OF THING,
JONATHAN.



TOMORROW I WILL TAKE YOU TO
THE LISTENING ROCKS TO REMIND
YOU OF THE TERRIBLE PLACE YOU
HAVE LEFT BEHIND YOU.

TOMORROW!
THAT MEANS
THEY ARE NOT
GOING TO LET US
GO TODAY.



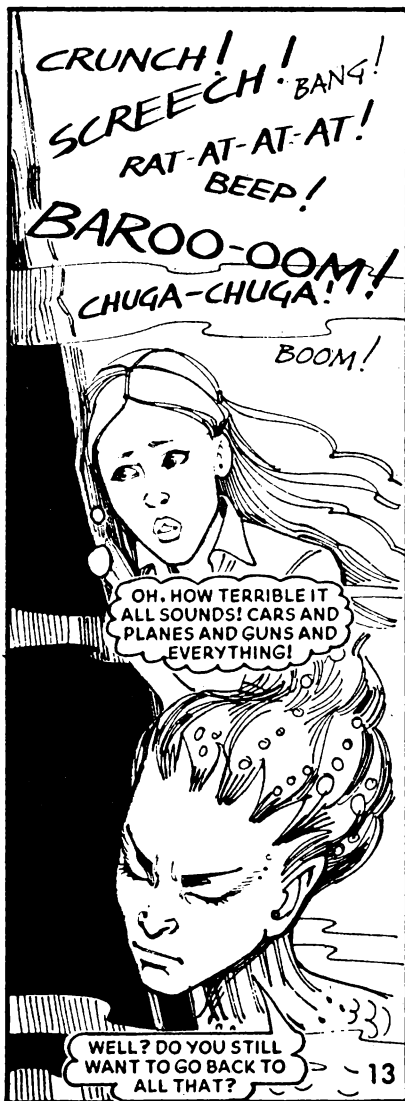
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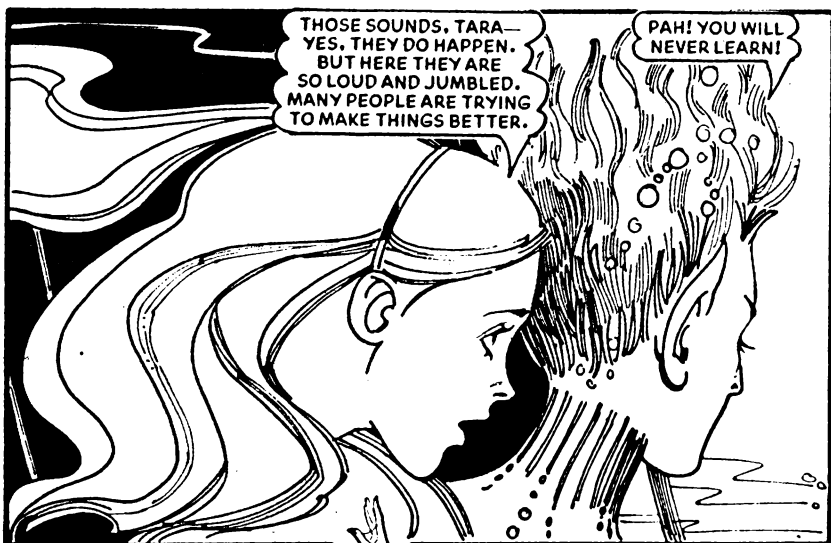
The next morning . . .

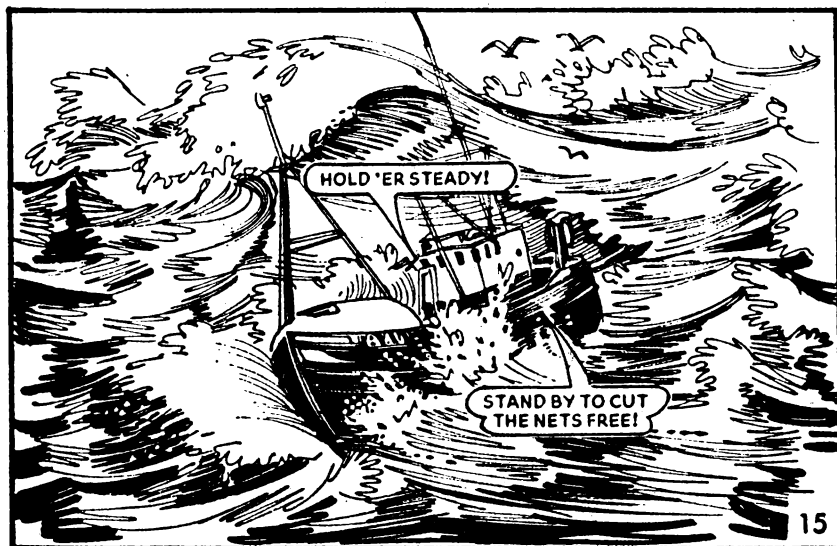
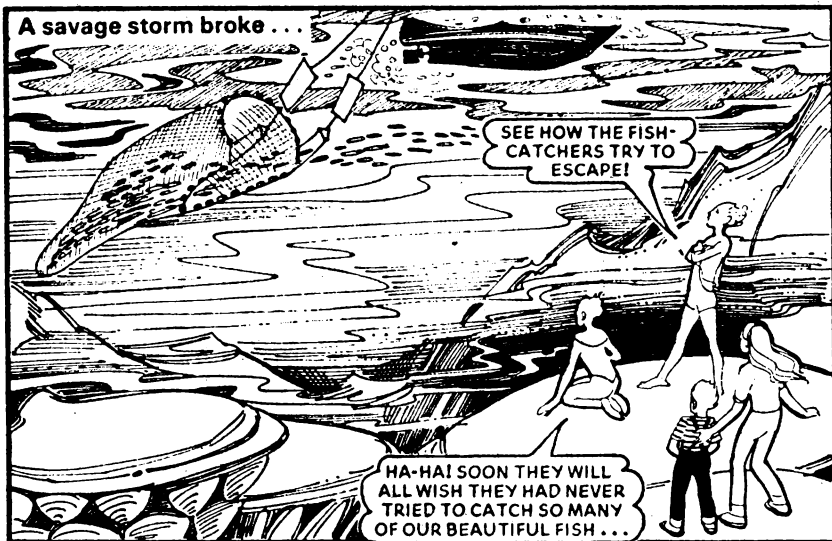
MMMM . . . THAT
WAS A LOVELY
SLEEP! IT'S SO
QUIET HERE. NOT
LIKE OUR NOISY
OLD STREET AT
HOME!

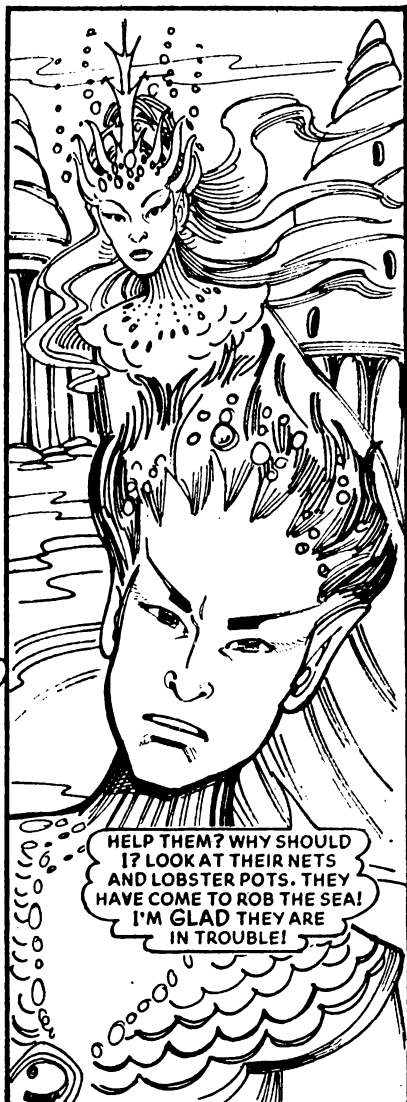
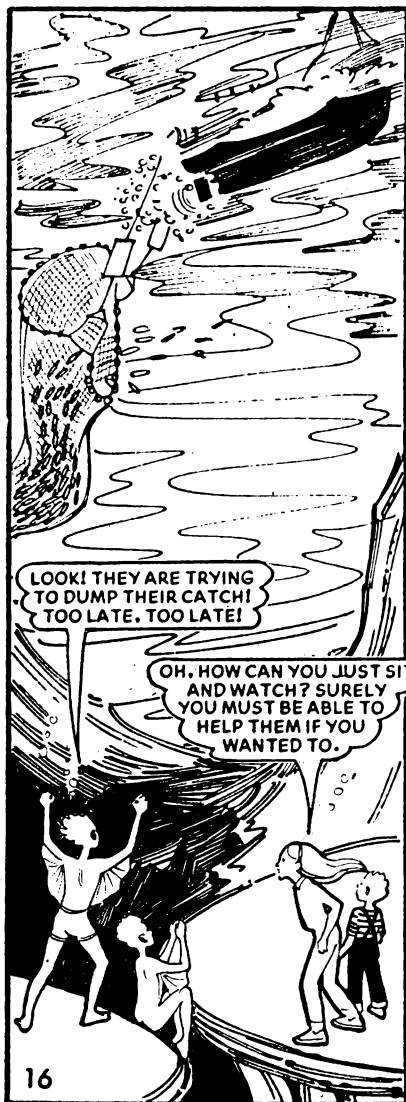
GOOD MORNING! YOU
SEE, JENNY? EVEN YOUR
LITTLE BROTHER CAN
SEE HOW WONDERFUL
OUR WORLD IS.



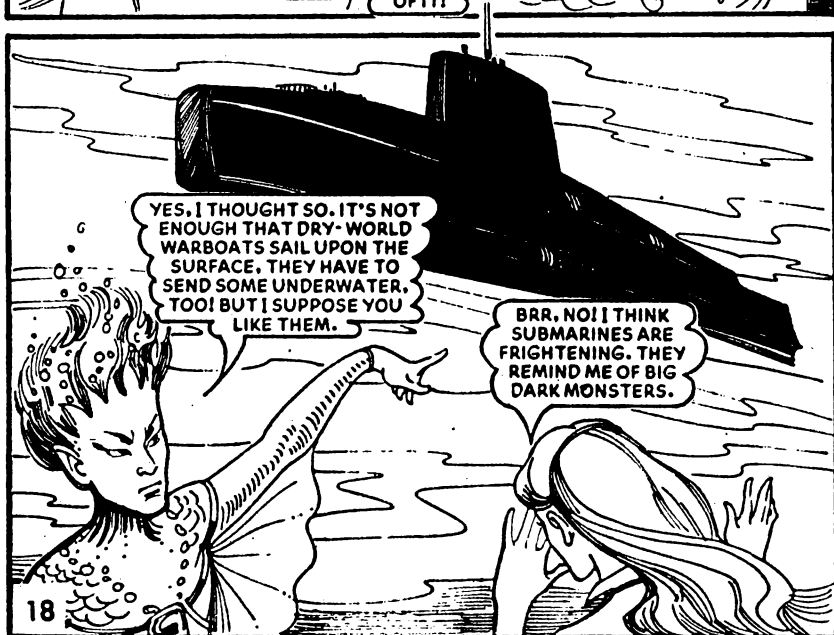
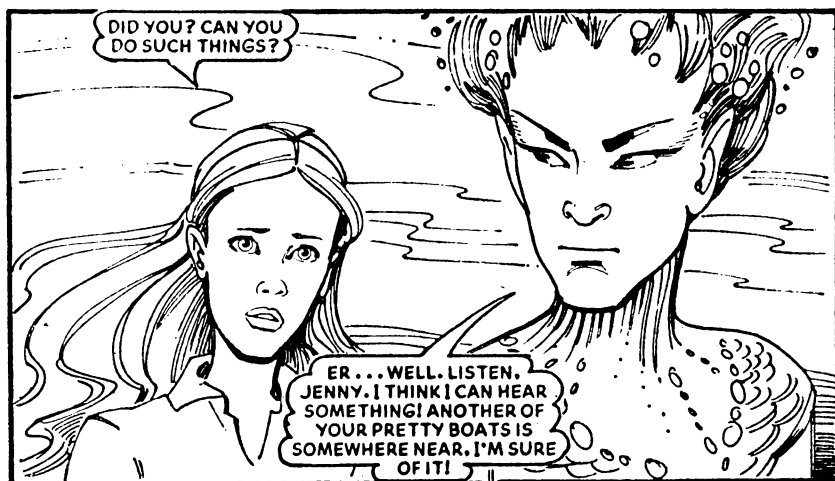


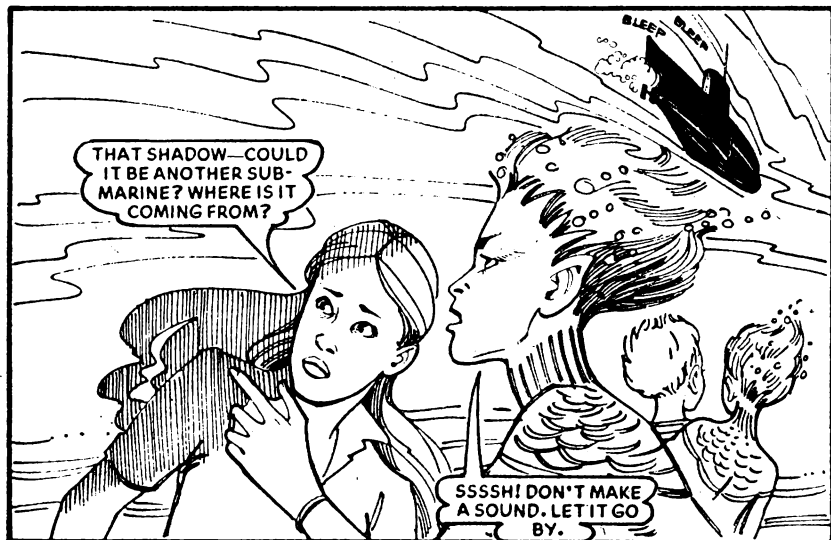


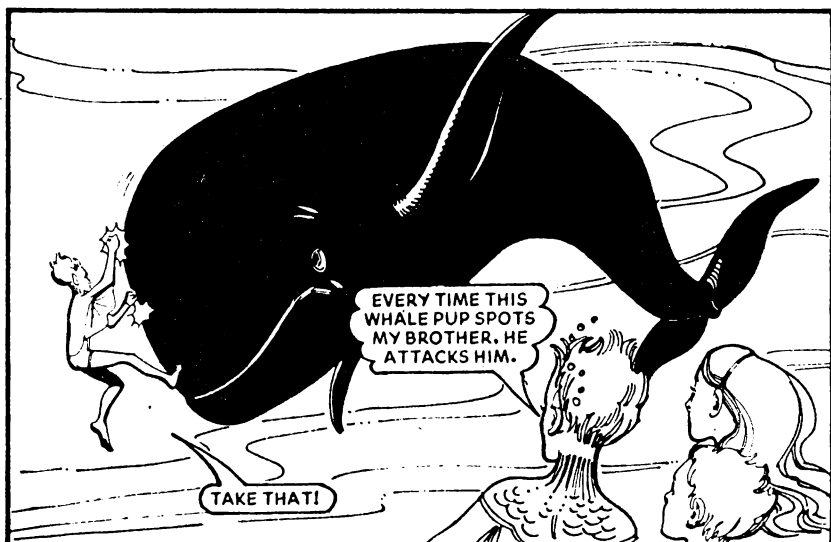




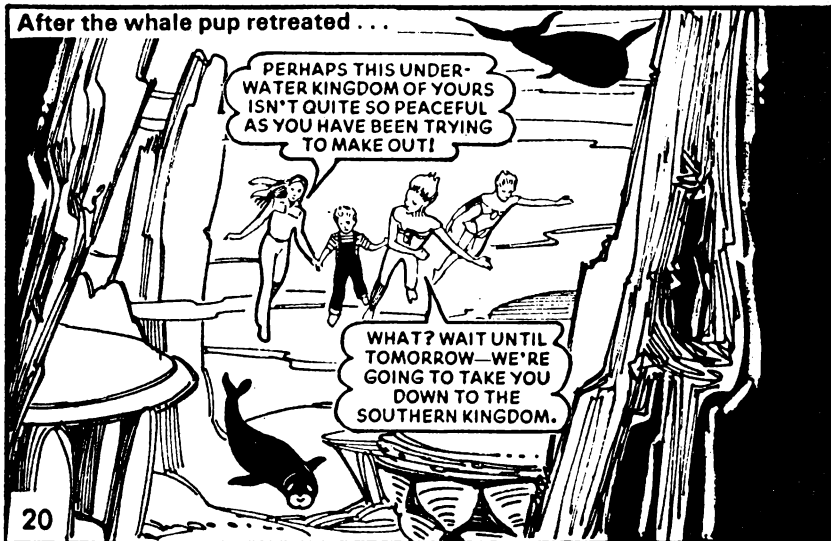








After the whale pup retreated . . .

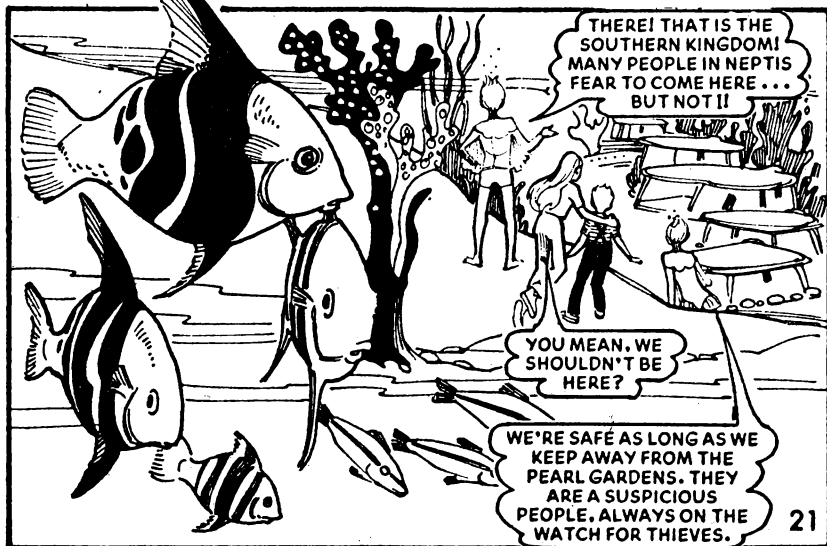


The next day ...

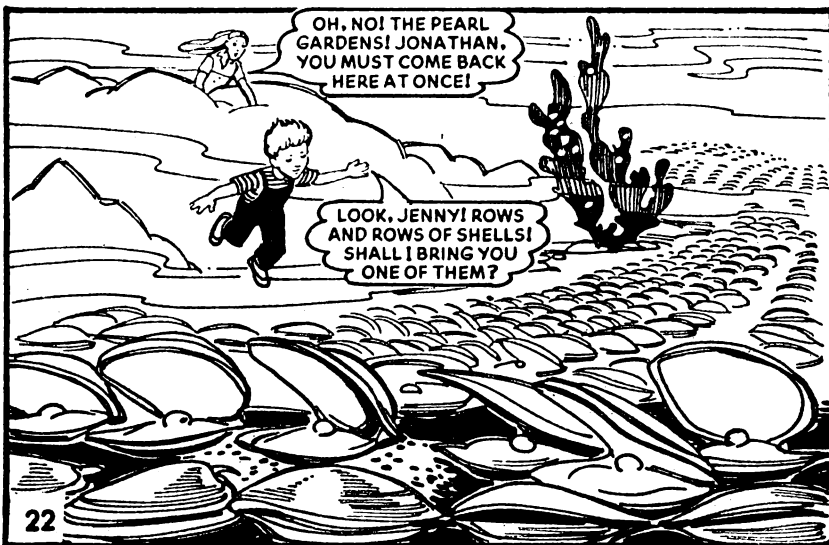
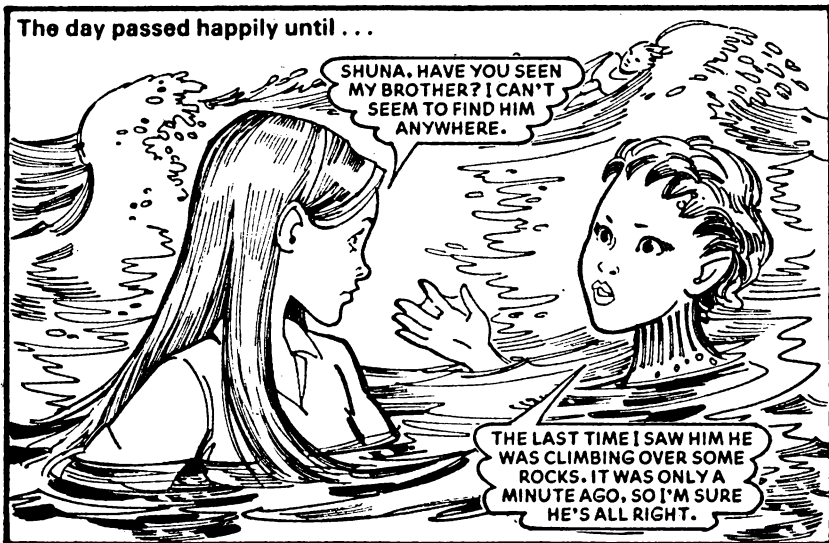
OH, HOW LOVELY! CAN YOU
FEEL HOW WARM THE WATER
IS GETTING, JONATHAN?

MMMMMM...

COME! WE'RE NOT
THERE YET ..!



The day passed happily until . . .



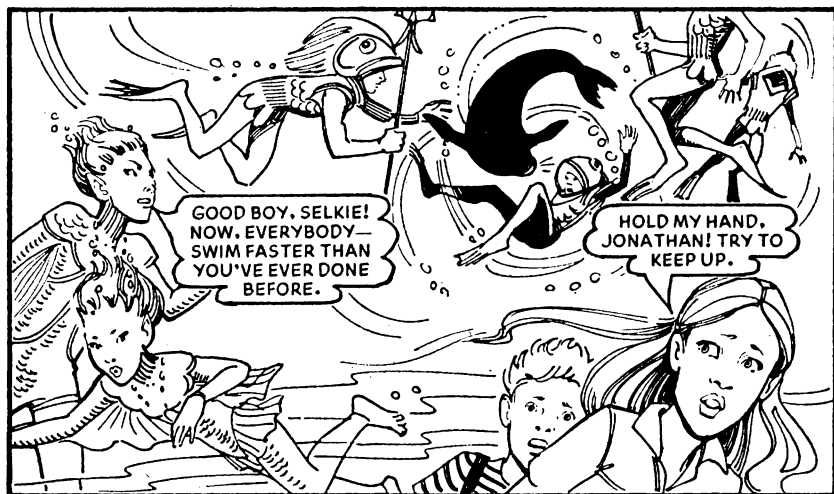


WHAT IS IT,
SELKIE? HE'S
TRYING TO WARN
US OF SOMETHING.

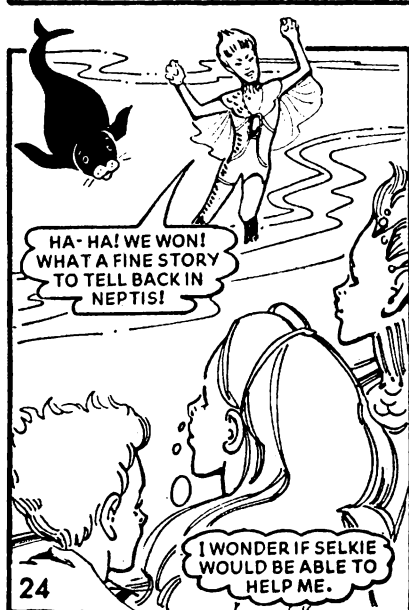
HURRY, JENNY. IT
MAY BE THE PEOPLE
OF THE SOUTHERN
KINGDOM.

Suddenly ...

TARAI WE MUST GO
QUICKLY! IT'S THE PEARL
GUARDIANS.



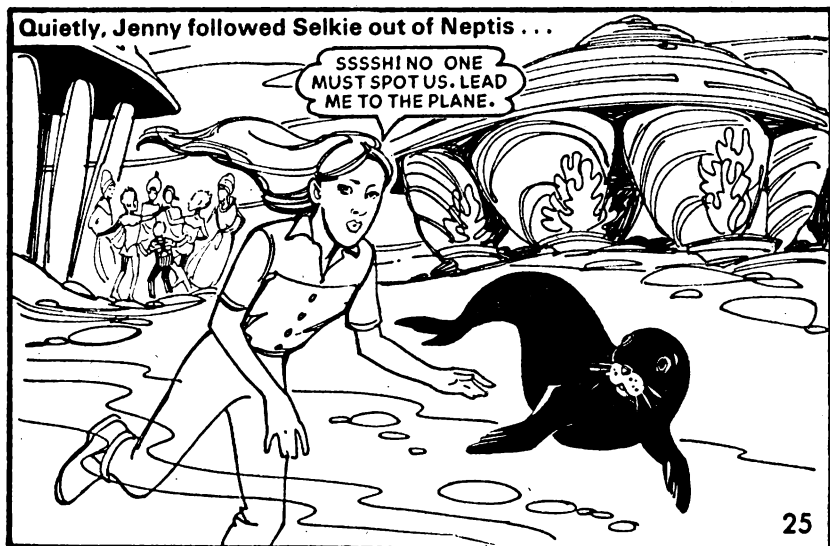
HOLD MY HAND,
JONATHAN! TRY TO
KEEP UP.

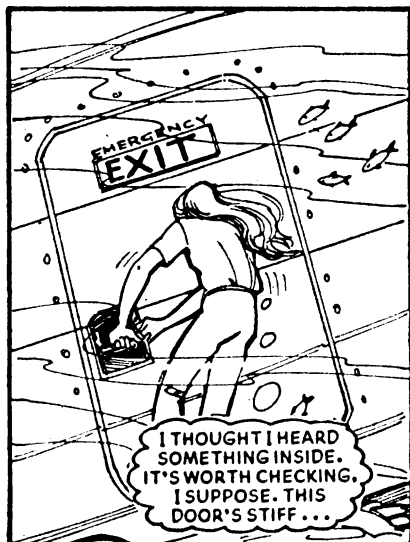
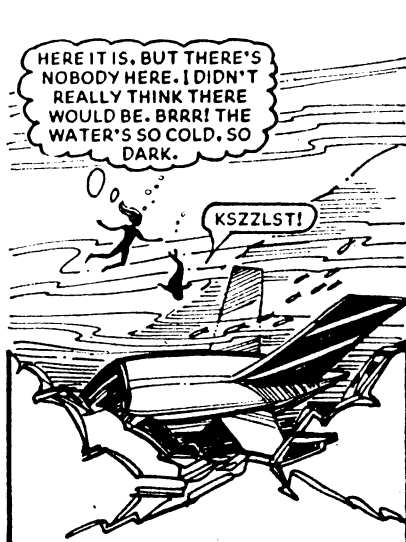


I WONDER IF SELKIE
WOULD BE ABLE TO
HELP ME.

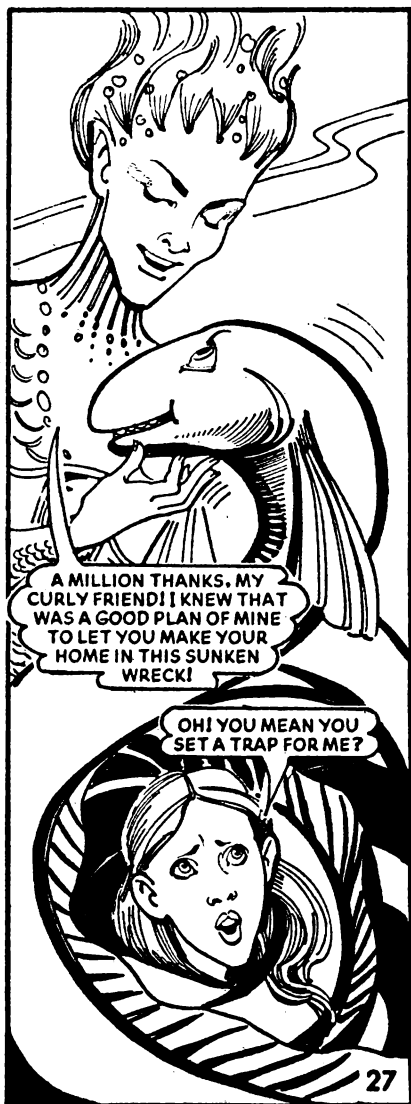


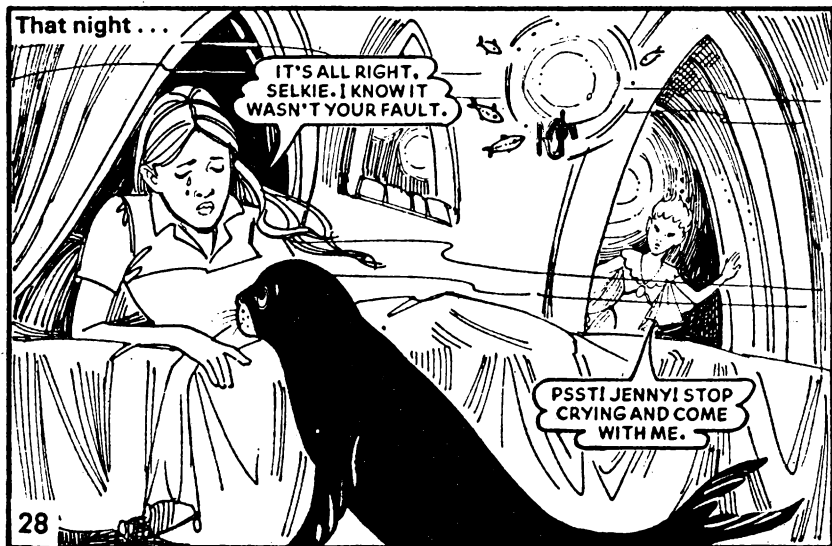
BRRF!
BZZKT!





Jenny struggled for
her life...







MY MOTHER, QUEEN NAIÁ,
HAS ASKED TO SEE YOU. SHE
WANTS TO EXPLAIN THINGS
TO YOU—IN PRIVATE.

COME IN, AND WELCOME. MY
POOR CHILD! I HAVE HEARD OF
MY SON'S LATEST TRICKS. HE
HAS MUCH TO LEARN BEFORE
HE BECOMES THE NEW RULER
OF NEPTIS.

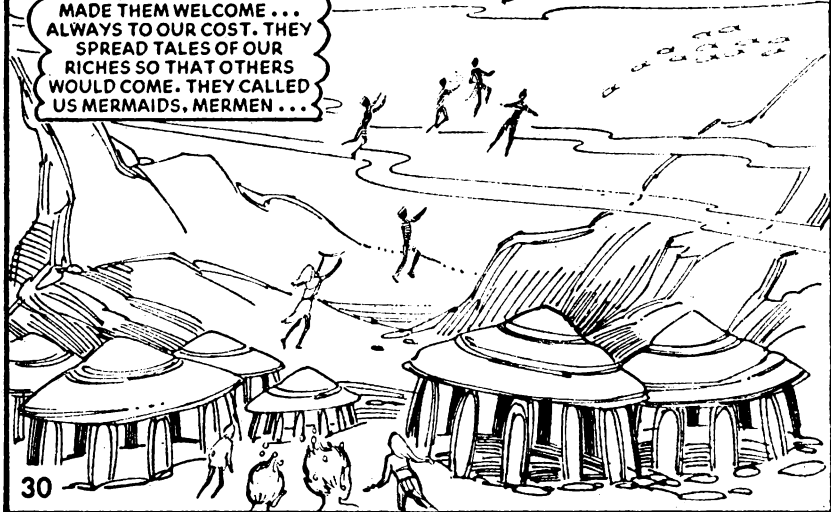
YES... THANK
YOU, SHUNA.

TARA TOLD ME THAT I
AM NOT ALLOWED TO GO
BACK HOME. PLEASE
TELL ME WHY. ISN'T
THERE ANY WAY I CAN
MAKE YOU CHANGE
YOUR MIND?

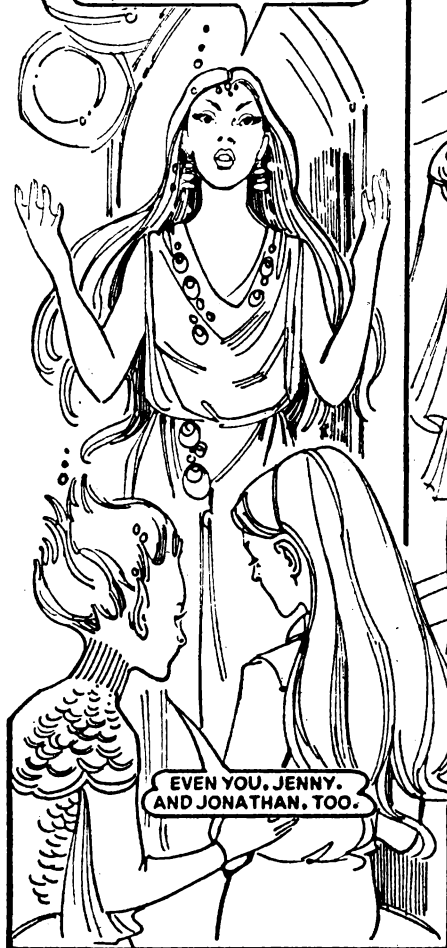


THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS WE MUST EXPLAIN... THE LEGEND OF NEPTIS. THE SECRET OATH OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE UNDERWATER KINGDOM. WE HAVE STRUGGLED FOR CENTURIES TO KEEP OUR WHEREABOUTS HIDDEN.

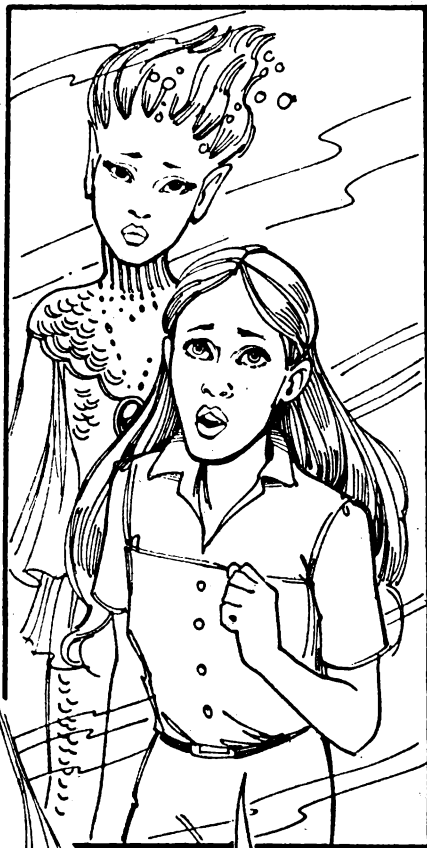
SOMETIMES MEN FROM THE DRY-WORLD FOUND US. WE MADE THEM WELCOME... ALWAYS TO OUR COST. THEY SPREAD TALES OF OUR RICHES SO THAT OTHERS WOULD COME. THEY CALLED US MERMAIDS, MERMEN...



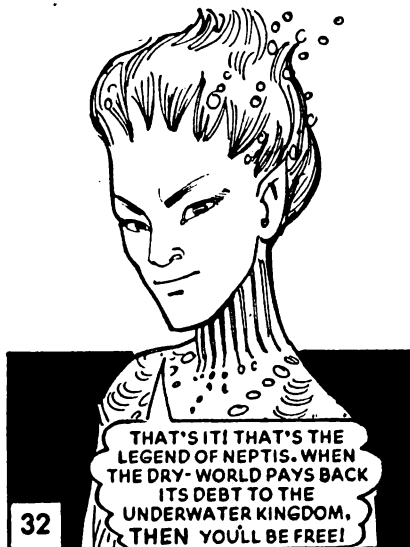
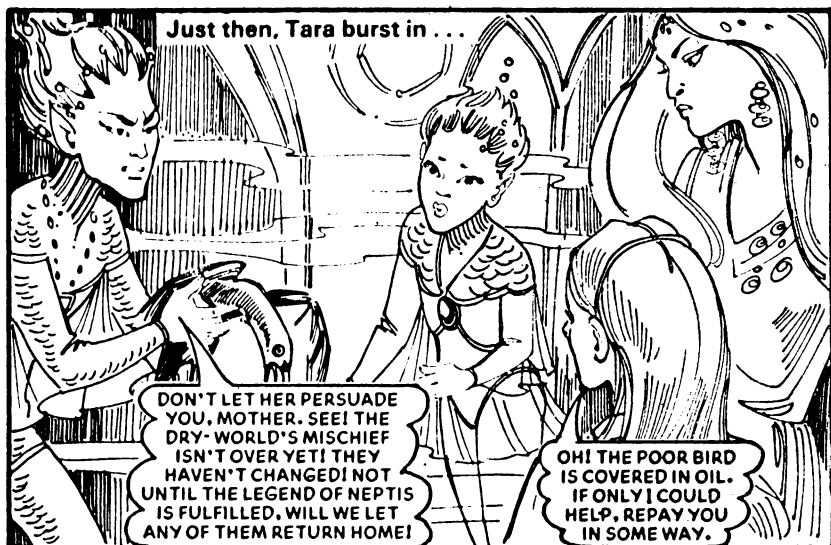
THEY TOOK ALL WE HAD—AND MORE. EVEN OUR CHILDREN WERE NOT SAFE. AND SO WE DECIDED THAT IF, WHILE HELPING ONE OF THEM, HE OR SHE CAME TO KNOW WHERE NEPTIS WAS, THEN THEY MUST STAY HERE FOR EVER.



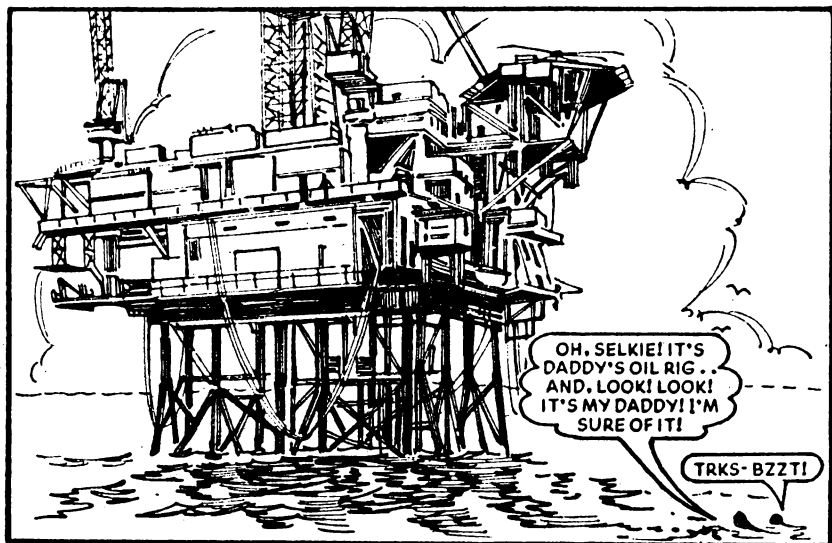
EVEN YOU, JENNY.
AND JONATHAN, TOO.

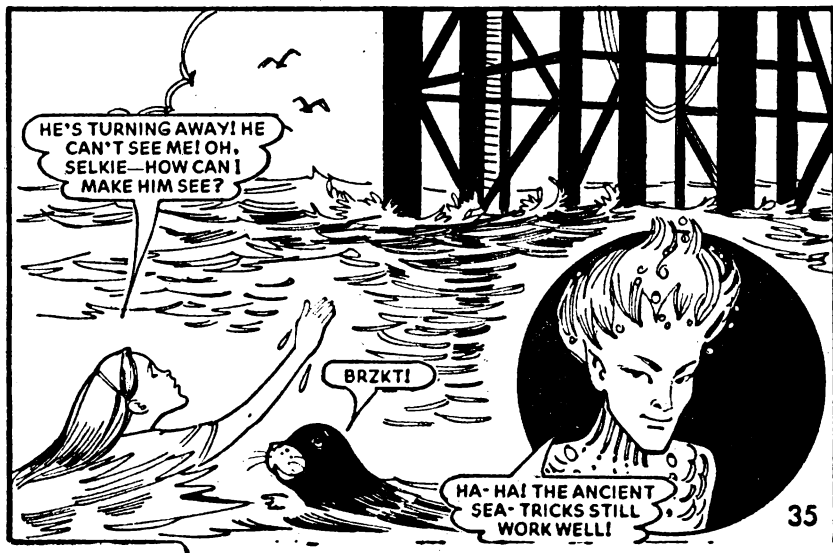
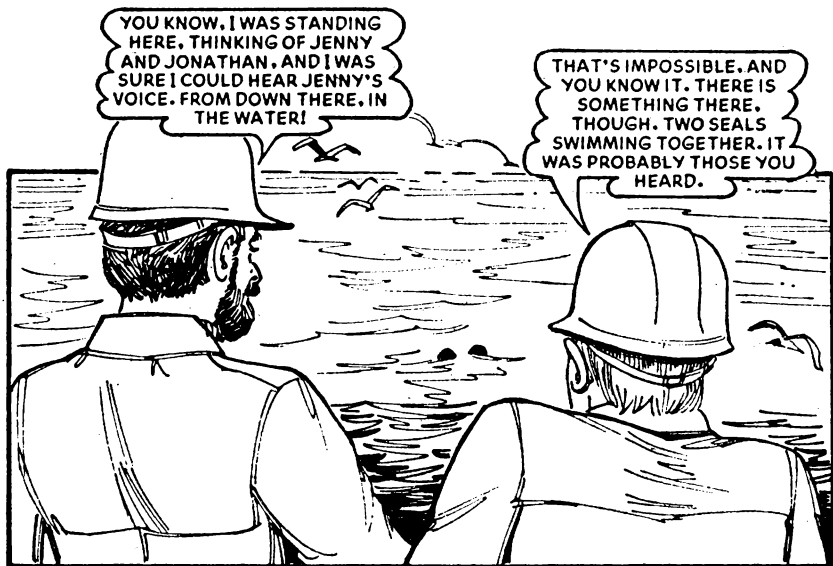


I UNDERSTAND YOUR FEARS.
BUT TIMES HAVE CHANGED!
EVEN IF I DID TELL
ANYBODY WHERE NEPTIS
WAS, NOBODY WOULD
BELIEVE ME! THEY'D THINK IT
WAS ALL A FAIRY STORY. I
NEVER WILL TELL, OF
COURSE, BUT ...

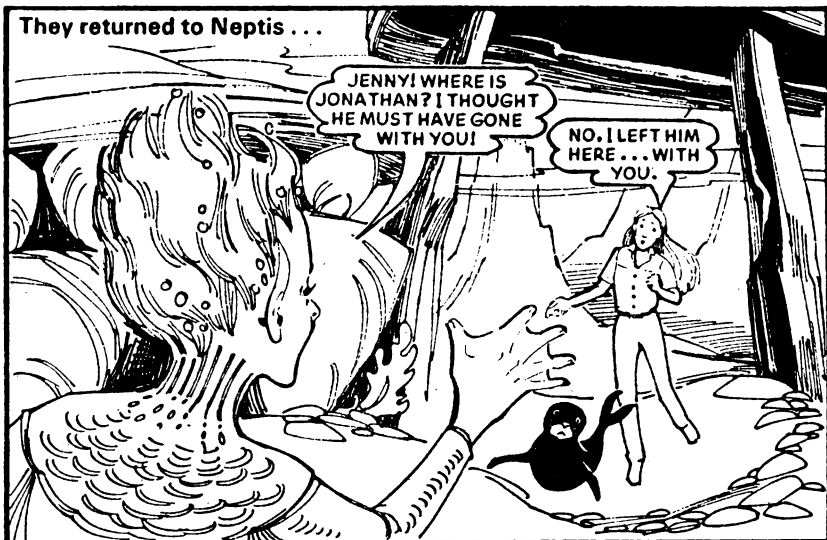


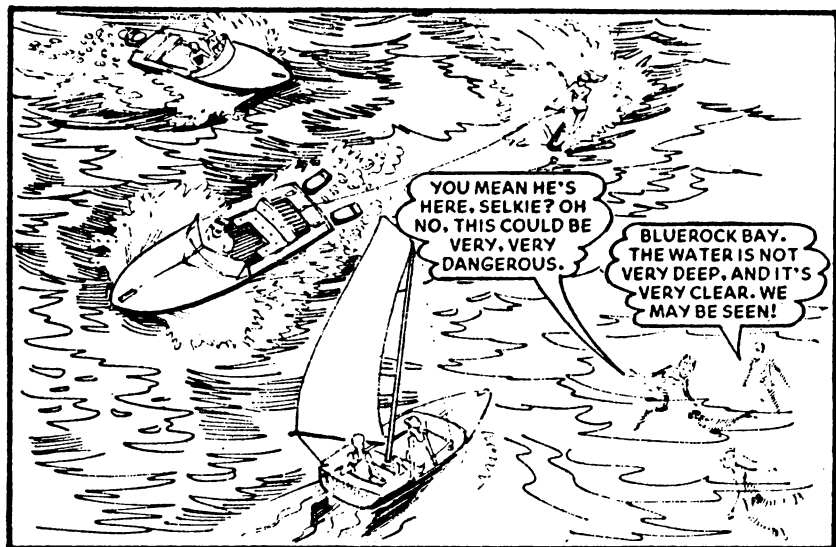


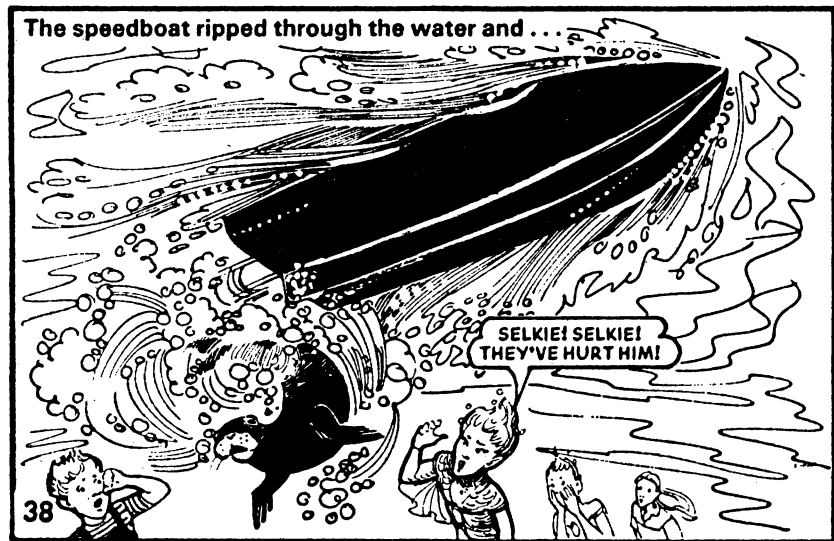


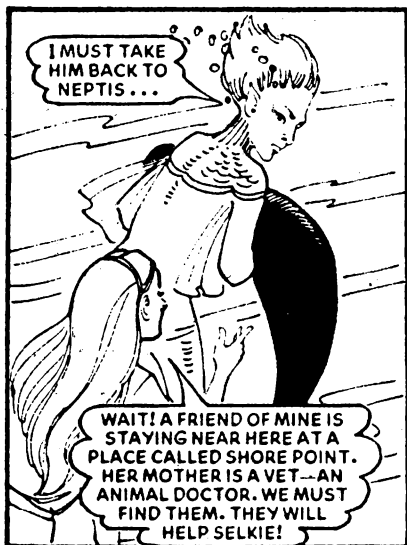


They returned to Neptis . . .



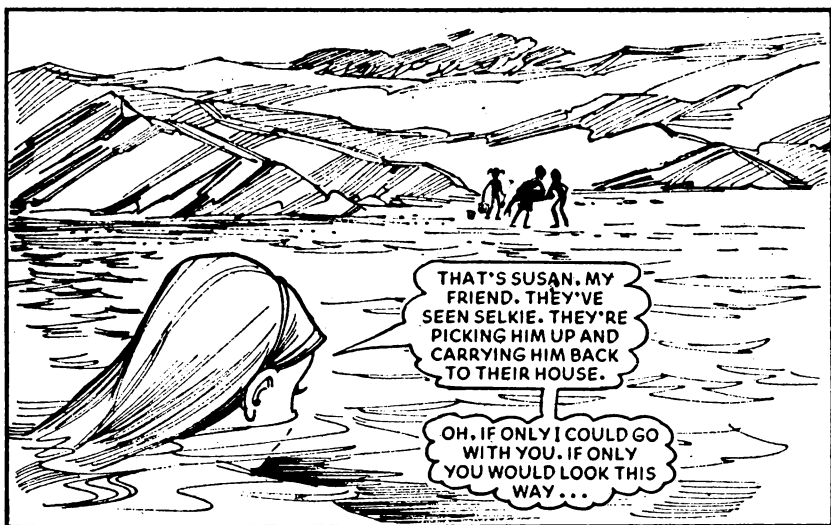




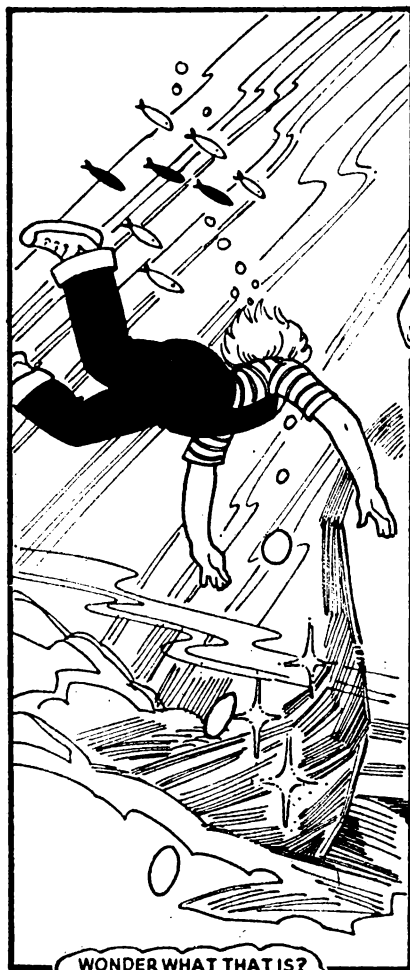


As the others watched from the sea . . .



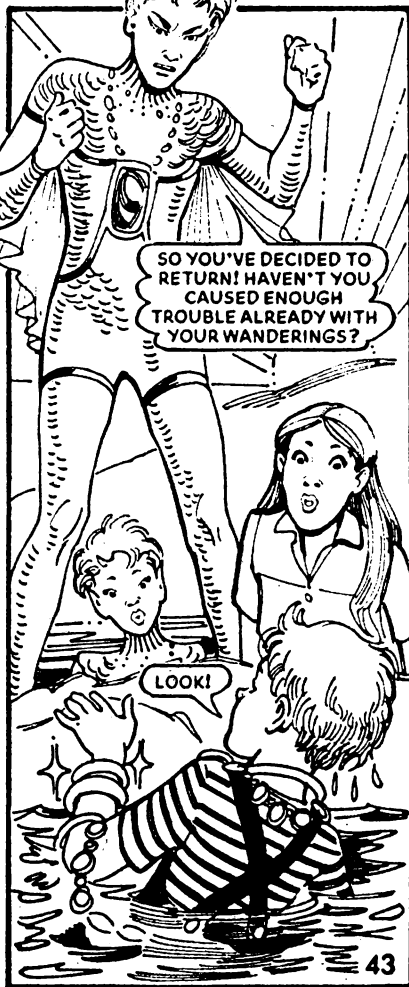






WONDER WHAT THAT IS?
WOULDN'T IT BE NICE IF I
COULD GET SOMETHING AS A
SURPRISE FOR THE OTHERS?
IT MIGHT STOP THEM BEING
SO SAD WHILE WE WAIT FOR
POOR SELKIE.

As the sun came up, Jonathan
returned to the rock . . .

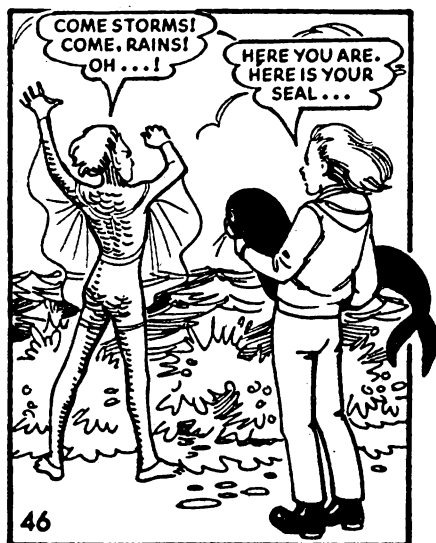
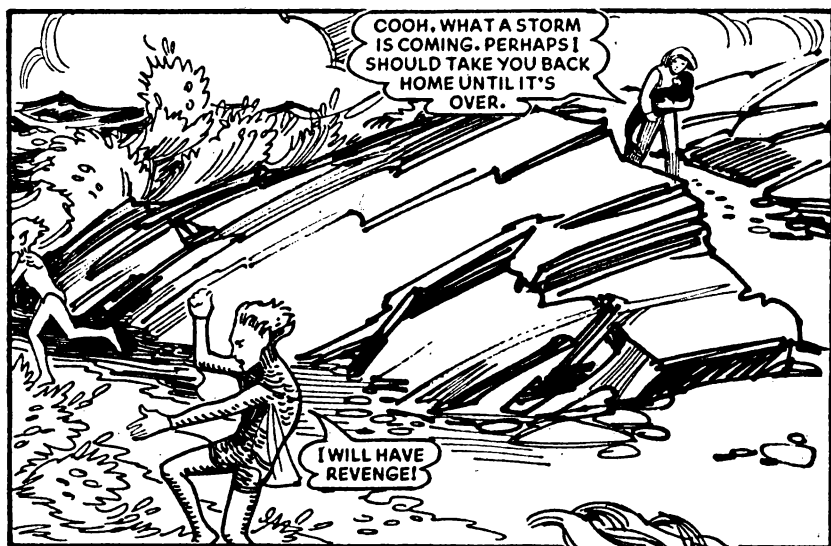


SO YOU'VE DECIDED TO
RETURN! HAVEN'T YOU
CAUSED ENOUGH
TROUBLE ALREADY WITH
YOUR WANDERINGS?

LOOK!









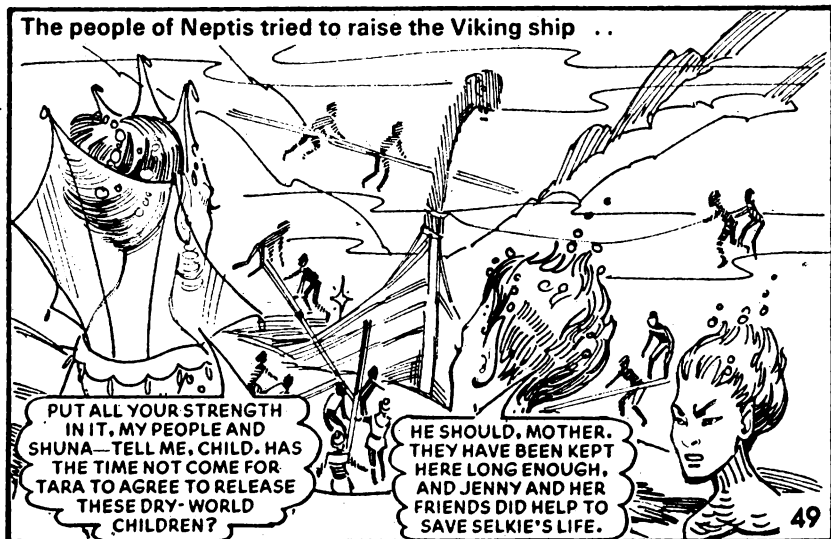
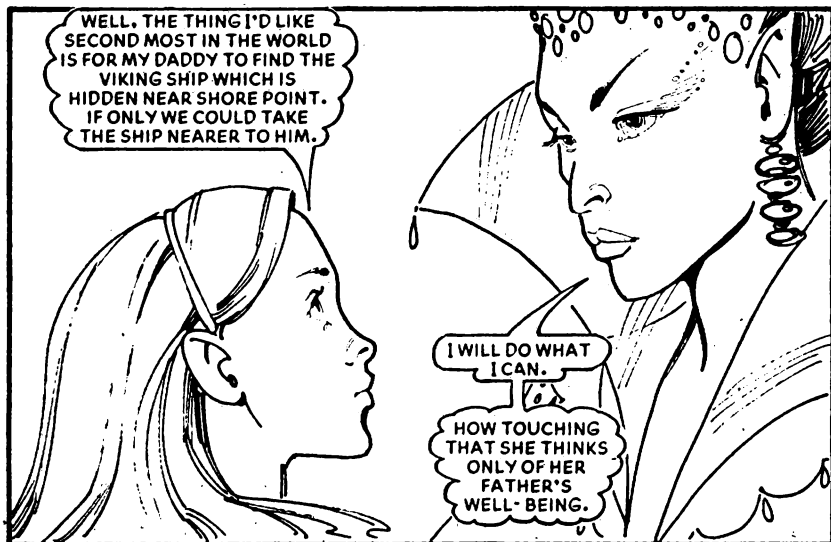
Safely back in Neptis ...

WHAT WAS SUSAN
SHOUTING WHEN YOU
RAN BACK INTO THE
SEA, TARA? I THOUGHT
I HEARD HER MENTION
MY NAME.

YOU MUST'VE
IMAGINED IT.

WELL DONE, JENNY!
THE MOTHER OF YOUR
FRIEND HAS HEALED
THE LITTLE SEAL
WELL. LET US REPAY
YOU BY GRANTING
YOU ONE FAVOUR.
WHAT DO YOU ASK?

THE ONLY THING I
REALLY WANT IS TO
GO HOME, BUT I'D
BETTER NOT SAY
THAT.





The council met ...

I AM WILLING THAT YOU SHOULD BE THE JUDGES. FOR SURELY YOU KNOW BETTER THAN ANY OF US THE DREADFUL WAYS OF THE DRY-WORLD.

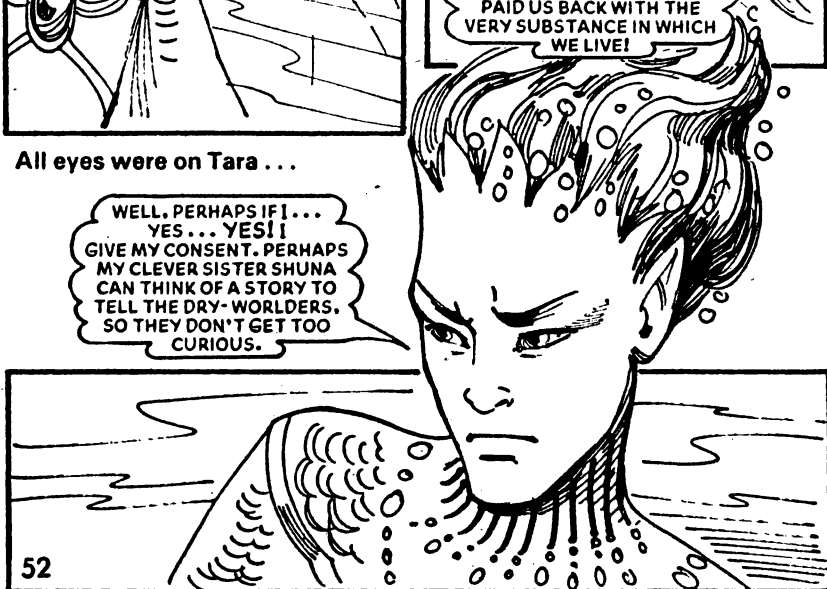
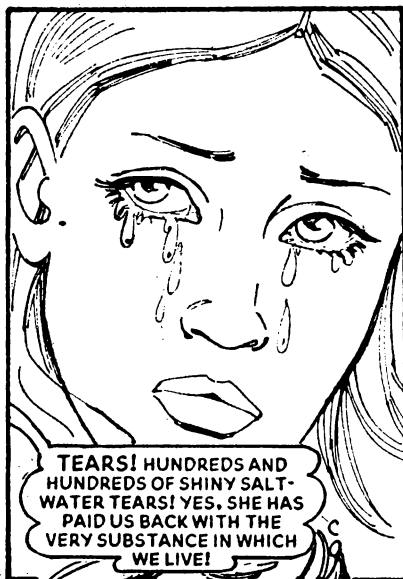
HERE WE GO AGAIN! IT SEEMS THE ONLY CHANCE WE HAVE OF GETTING OUT OF HERE IS IF TARA LOSES HIS VOICE.

I'M SURE THE COUNCIL DOESN'T NEED TO BE REMINDED ABOUT WHALE-HUNTING AND OIL SLICKS. YOU KNOW THAT MANY DRY-WORLDEERS THEMSELVES HATE THESE VERY THINGS! AND AS FOR THE DEBT WHICH JENNY OWES TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNDERWATER KINGDOM, SURELY SHE HAS PAID IT MANY TIMES OVER ALREADY!



All eyes were on Tara ...

WELL, PERHAPS IF I ...
YES ... YES!!
GIVE MY CONSENT. PERHAPS
MY CLEVER SISTER SHUNA
CAN THINK OF A STORY TO
TELL THE DRY-WORLDEERS.
SO THEY DON'T GET TOO
CURIOUS.



The people of Neptis gathered round the Viking ship.

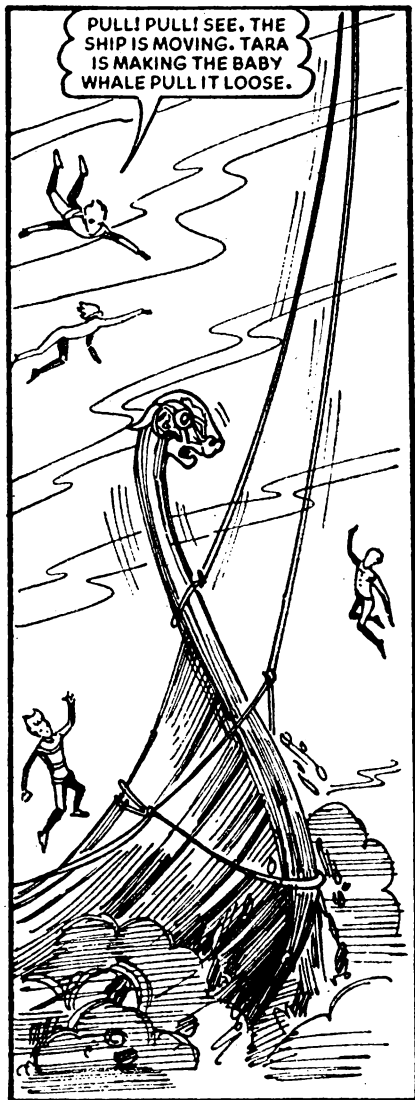
HURRAY! LET'S
GET TO WORK! HEAVE!

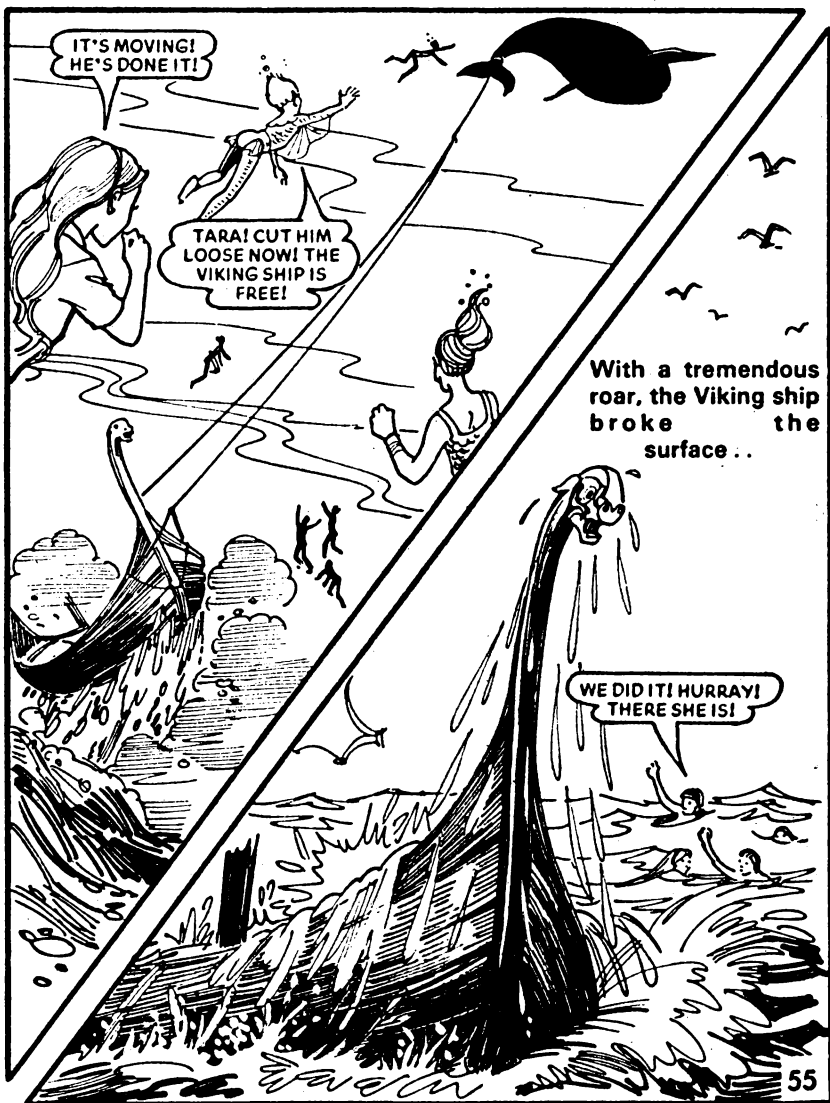
WHAT CAN THAT
DARK SHAPE BE?

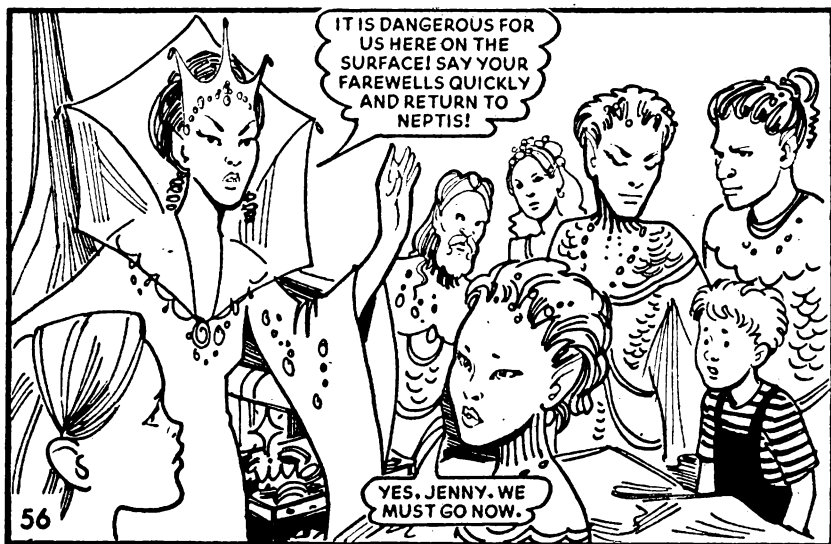
Suddenly, without warning . . .

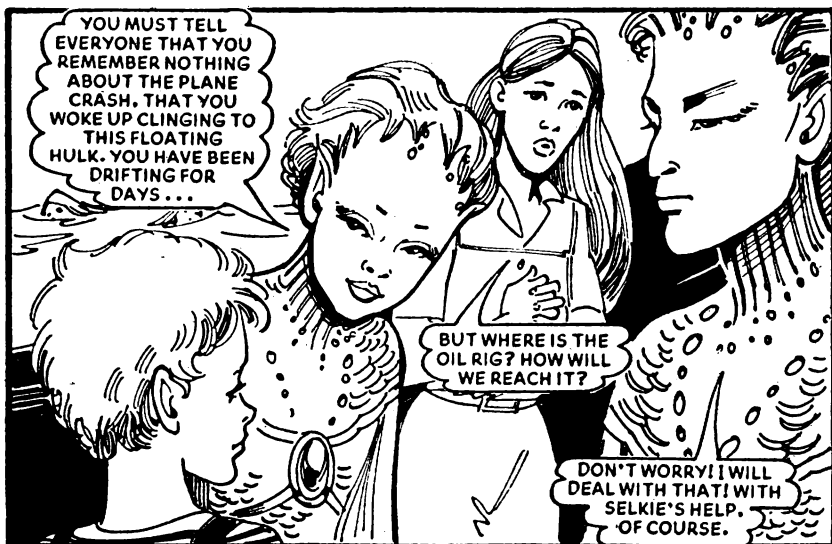
HMM! THIS BLUNDERING
HULK OF WHALEMEAT
HAS JUST GIVEN ME AN
IDEA!

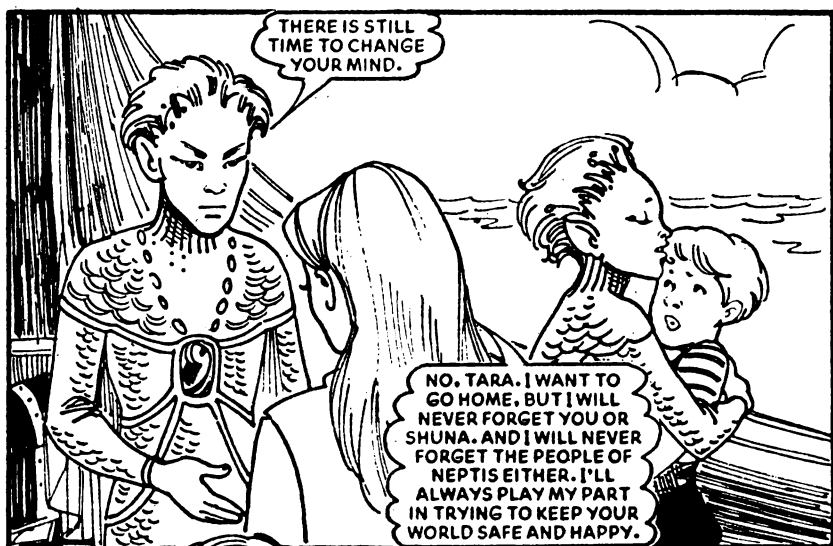
THAT'S RIGHT! TIE IT
TIGHTLY TO THE BOAT.
TAKE COVER, EVERY-
BODY!











COME, JENNY AND
JONATHAN! LISTEN TO THE
GENTLE SPLASH OF THE
WAVES. HEAR THE SAD,
SWEET SONG OF THE SEA.
THE CRIES OF THE WATER-
BIRDS. THE MURMUR OF THE
OCEAN ...



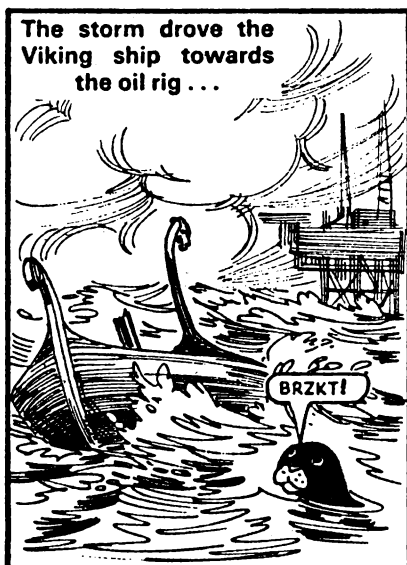
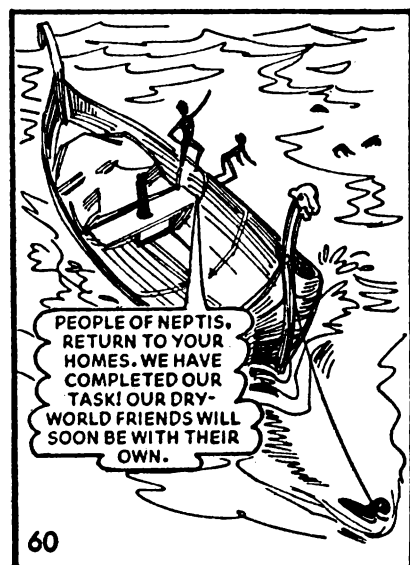
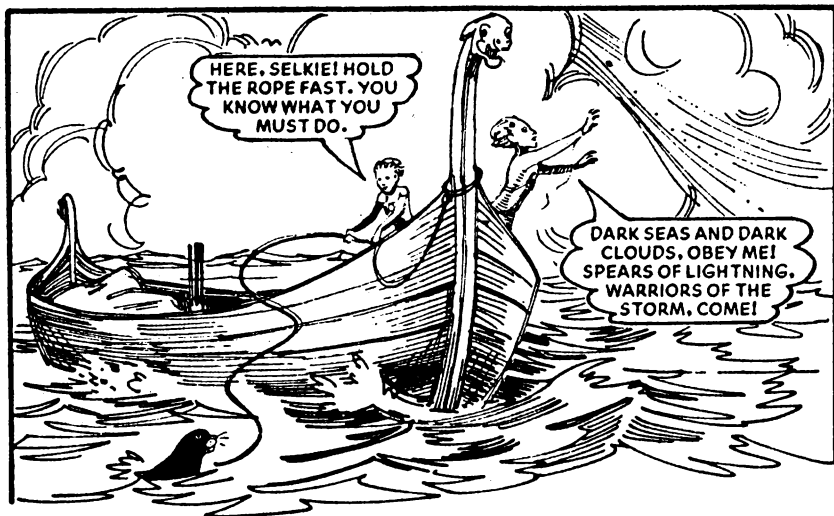
MMMMM ...!—
FEEL—SO—
SLEEPY ...

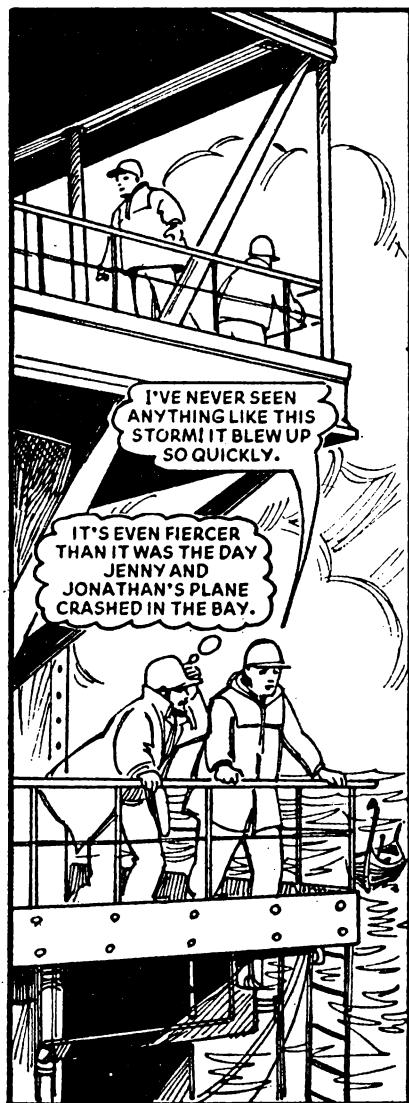
OOOOOH ...
TIRED—WANT TO
SLEEP ...

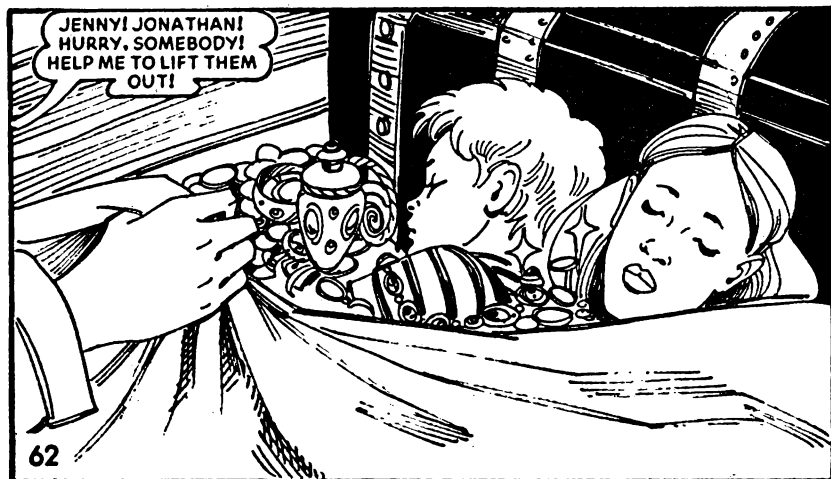
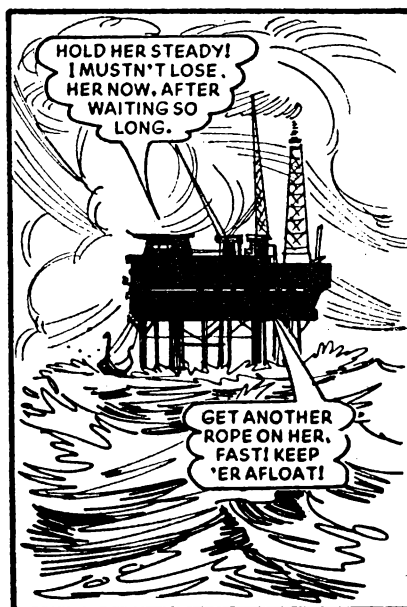
YES, SLEEP! YOUR
VIKING SHIP MUST
MAKE ONE MORE
JOURNEY NOW.

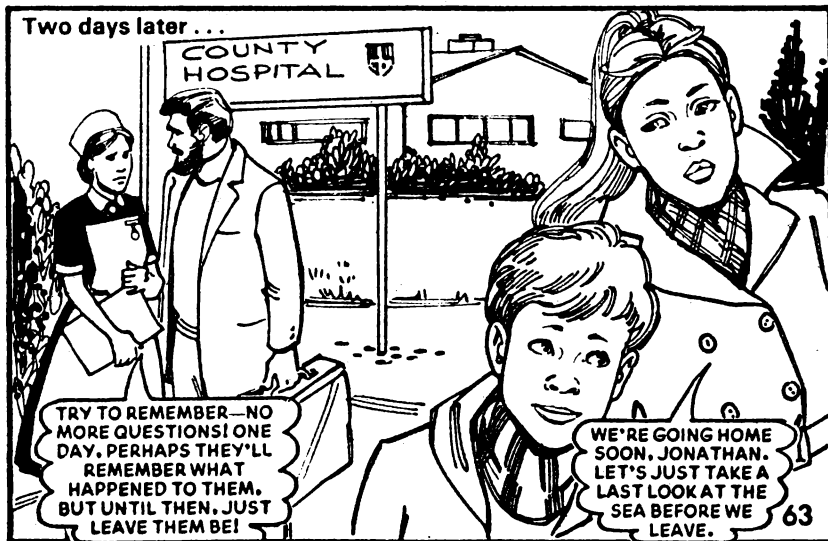
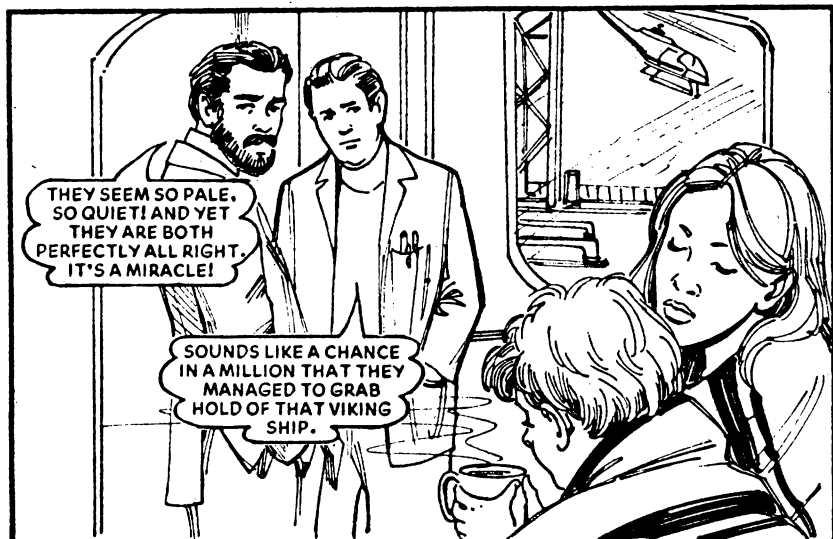



QUICKLY, TARA!
CALL UP YOUR
STORMS AND LET
US SEND THEM ON
THEIR WAY.











COME ON, YOU TWO!
I'D HAVE THOUGHT
YOU'D HAVE HAD
ENOUGH OF THE SEA
AFTER YOUR TERRIBLE
EXPERIENCE.

GOODBYE, TARA. GOODBYE,
SHUNA. PERHAPS ONE DAY
I'LL COME BACK HERE. I'LL
SIT BY THE WATER'S EDGE
AND CALL YOUR NAMES
AND HOPE THAT YOU HEAR
ME.

GOODBYE, SELKIE. DON'T
FORGET ME 'COS I'LL NEVER
FORGET YOU. GOODBYE!

Linda Lewin couldn't be happier when her widower father announces that he's going to marry widowed Mrs Jackson. However, one person isn't happy about the arrangements—Mrs Jackson's snooty daughter, Jemima. She does all she can to stop the wedding.

Sparks fly between Linda and Jemima in the

Battle Of The Bridesmaids



MANDY LIBRARY Nº 51

ON SALE NEXT MONTH, TUES., 25th.

IT'S TOP OF THE POPS!

Mandy



**Mandy
Mandy**

**THE WEEKLY PAPER THAT'S
PACKED WITH PICTURE-STORIES!**

ON SALE EVERY WEDNESDAY!